(b) if so, to what extent and the actual estimated yields this year compared to that in the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) the details of estimated production of rice, coarse cereals, pulses and foodgrains in the country during Kharif 2009-10 (1st advance estimates) alongwith the shortfall as compared to their estimated production during Kharif 2008-09 (4th advance estimates) are given in the table below:

(Million tonnes)

Crop	Estimated Production during Kharif 2009-10	Shortfall as compared to production during Kharif 2008-09
Rice	69.45	15.13
Bajra	5.83	3.01
Maize	12.61	1.29
Tur	2.47	0.16
Pulses	4.42	0.35
Foodgrains	96.63	21.07

Note : Wheat is a Rabi crop.

The details of estimated yield of major crops during Kharif season for the year 2007-08 to 2009-10 are given in the table below:-

Crop	Kharif Yield (kg/hectare)		
	2007-08	2008-09*	2009-10**
Rice	2095	2081	1970
Bajra	1042	1011	673
Maize	2122	2024	1835
Tur	826	678	707
Pulses	557	484	437
Foodgrains	1644	1648	1467

*4th Advance Estimates **1st Advance Estimates

Suicide by farmers

†1680. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers are still committing suicide in different States;

(b) if so, their number, State-wise; and

(c) the reasons for these suicides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) the incidents of suicide by farmers have been mainly reported from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Kerala. Besides, some cases of farmers' suicide were also reported by the State of Gujarat, Punjab and Tamil Nadu. A Statement showing number of suicides by farmers on account of agrarian reasons as per reports received from the State Governments is given in Statement (*See* below).

As reported by the State Governments and revealed in some studies conducted earlier, the causes for suicides by farmers are manifold including personal and other reasons. However, some suicides out of the total number of suicides have been attributed to crop failure, indebtedness, drought and socio-economic reasons.

However, The Veeresh Committee (in the context of the Karnataka Farmers' suicide) has appropriately concluded that connecting the spate of suicides directly to any single cause would be erroneous. Suicide in its content is strictly a personal decision and the post suicide search for causes gives only circumstantial evidence. Typical social factors like family support, failure of social institutions, habits, alcoholism, social security, introvert nature and intra family problems are some of the critical social issues that have affected the victims to take such an extreme step.

Statement

Number of suicides by farmers on account of agrarian reasons as per reports received from the State Governments

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Period	No. of suicides by farmers
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra pradesh	2007	490
		2008	390
		2009 (upto 16.11.09)	77
2.	Karnataka	2007-08	182
		2008-09	143
		2009-10 (upto 31.08.09)	14
3.	Maharashtra	2007	590
		2008	627
		2009 (upto 15.11.09)	259

1	2	3	4
4.	Kerala	2007	68
		2008	22
		2009 (upto 31.08.09)	02
5.	Tamil Nadu	2007	01
		2008	01
		2009 (upto 31.10.09)	Nil
6.	Punjab	2007	24
		2008	10
		2009 (upto 31.10.09)	18
7.	Gujarat	2007	04
		2008	01
		2009 (upto 31.05.09)	02@

S.No.	Name of State	Date of Report	No. of Suicide
1	2	3	4
8.	Assam	12.12.2007	Nil
9.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.08.2007	Nil
10.	Bihar	14.5.2008	Nil
11.	Chhattisgarh	31.07.2009	Nil
12.	Goa	31.10.2009	Nil
13.	Haryana	16.11.2009	Nil
14.	Himachal Pradesh	19.11.2009	Nil
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	18.11.2009	Nil
16.	Jharkhand	25.4.2008	Nil
17.	Manipur	19.11.2009	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	31.07.2009	Nil
19.	Madhya Pradesh	24.11.2009	Nil
20.	Mizoram	23.07.2009	Nil
21.	Nagaland	23.11.2009	Nil
22.	Orissa*	23.11.2009	Nil*

1	2	3	4
23.	Rajasthan	4.12.2007	Nil
24.	Sikkim	21.11.2009	Nil
25.	Tripura	25.3.2008	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	20.11.2009	Nil
27.	Uttarakhand	8.05.2008	Nil
28.	West Bengal	31.10.2009	Nil
29.	Admn. of Andaman and Nicobar	26.10.2007	Nil
30.	Govt. of NCT of Delhi	28.09.2007	Nil
31.	Admn. of Daman and Diu	15.07.2009	Nil
32.	Admn. of Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.07.2008	Nil
33.	Admn. of Lakshadweep	19.11.2007	Nil
34.	Admn. of Puducherry	23.11.2009	Nil
35.	Admn. of Chandigarh	23.09.2009	Nil

*23 cases of alleged suicide by farmers have been reported in Orissa, but the State Government has not been able to ascertain so far whether anyone or more out of these alleged suicides have been caused due to agrarian distress. However, investigations by the State Police are going on this regard.

@Being re-verified by the Agriculture Department, Gujarat.

Development of rainfed areas

1681. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified rainfed areas in the country for the purpose of their sustainable development;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the total expenditure earmarked for development of rainfed areas under the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The net sown area in the country is about 140.30 million ha of which 60.86 million ha area is covered under irrigation and the remaining 79.44 million ha is rainfed. The state-wise details of net sown area and rainfed area is given in Statement (*See* below).

Government of India has accorded highest priority to the holistic and sustainable development of rainfed areas through integrated watershed development approach. Ministry of